The Chicago Tribune.

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WASHINGTON.

Defeat of the Central Branch Pacific Railroad Bill in the Senate.

Speech of Senator Sherman in Support of the Measure.

Action on Tariff Bills Expected at the Present Session.

House to Hold Evening Sessions for General Debate.

Continuation of Mr. Bingham's Argument in Favor of His Postal System.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.

THE RAILROAD SUBSIDIES.

In Senate put a knife into the body of another one whose bloody bill no-day, but whether the knife is yet dead cannot be determined for a time. The dreaming here was partly occasioned by a heated discussion by Hendricks, Sherman and Conness, on the old Mississippi quicksilver mine, which Sherman made a long and telling speech on finances, in support of the measure reported last week. The Atchison Railroad was then taken up by four majority, and friends hopes work with entire success in spite of duty to carry it further. It was not further, debate, but some discussion on various amendments, and voting thereon occupied the remainder of the time. Sherman's speech, the friends of the bill appearing to think it more strong enough to carry it without the aid of the vote which it was expected would have one part of the Senate. This course evidently lost them some, and the bill on the question of its passage was lost by two majority, viz.: Yeas, 26; nays, 28. The session this evening is for the purpose of reconsidering the vote.

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH SCHEME.

Richard, of Boston, resumed his argument this morning, before the House Committee on postal question. The press, he said, was partly inclined to favor the proposed system, but the great mass of the people, the Western Union Company had done them, that many parts would be found to publish anything in its favor. Speech was continued to the hour of adjournment.

THE OHIO RIVER BRIDGES.

The Committee on Roads and Canals heard witnesses to-day as to whether the bridges over the Ohio River are an obstruction to commerce.

THE PRESIDENT'S SALARY.

The President sent to Congress to-day the correspondence between Secretary Seward and Geo. Peabody relative to a gold medal presented to him by order of Congress. Mr. Seward thinks says: "Cheerfully as I do the statesmanlike and patriotic motive, it is not possible for me to feel more grateful than I do for this and previous memorial of its kind."

THE CUBA PURCHASE DENIED.

Secretary Seward authorizes a denial of the statement that our government is now in negotiation for the purchase of Cuba. Overtures were made early a year ago, to the Spanish minister, but they were declined. It is believed now by our government that if Cuba should be offered, it would be eagerly purchased. Our power over the creditor is limited, and we have no power to carry a consent and compulsion. Our power over the debtor is unlimited, and we have no power to carry a consent and compulsion. Our power over the creditor is unlimited, and we have no power to carry a consent and compulsion. Our power over the debtor is unlimited, and we have no power to carry a consent and compulsion. The question, then, remains, What amount of appropriation will be needed to enable the government to meet its obligations to all the creditors of the nation? Our creditors are, first, our own citizens, who are the pioneers of the nation, who have contributed to the wealth of the nation, who have contributed to the wealth of the nation, who have contributed to the wealth

The Tribune.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1867.

THE DAILY TRIBUNE is issued every morning by THE TRIBUNE COMPANY, at 51 and 53 Dearborn-st., Chicago, Ill.

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TRIBUNE COMPANY, Chicago, Ill.

THE LAKE FRONT BILL.

The question of greatest interest at Springfield at the present time relates to the ownership of the submerged lands on the east front of the city of Chicago. We predicted, two years ago, that there would come day be a fierce contest over this property, and we then urged the Common Council to take immediate steps to secure it to the city. We believed then, and we believe now, that if the city authorities had comprehended, or had been able to comprehend, the subject, the title to this valuable domain might have been secured. Fuller's Harbor and Dock bill had just been killed, and in the midst of the jubilation which followed, a scheme had engendered the Legislature was in a mood to have vested it in the city at once and without question. But nothing was done. Senator Eastman introduced a bill to accomplish the object, but it encountered stern opposition from those who ought to have been most zealous and indefatigable in procuring its passage.

After a lapse of two years (and some hard fighting), the Council presented an abstract of title to the shore, tending to disclose the riparian ownership. We say *tending* to disclose it, for all that was disclosed was a color of title inferred from certain acts of the Canal Commissioners, in 1853. Whether the title was in the city, or in the purchasers of lots in "Fractional Section 13," or in the Canal Trustees, could not be determined without a judicial investigation. It was shown pretty clearly that the title to the shore line, commonly known as Lake Park, was not in the State, because the Legislature had once, in 1852, by public act, recognized it as a common appurtenant to the city of Chicago. The riparian ownership, it is well understood, has a most important bearing on the adjustment of title to outside property. There has been no decision by the United States Courts, so far as we know, accurately determining the rules (except as regards a natural accretion) which apply to an inland sea like Lake Michigan, but there have been decisions regarding the land underneath the ocean, where the tide ebbs and flows, and also concerning inland rivers. If the rules governing inland rivers apply to Lake Michigan, then the riparian owner is the owner of the fee to the centre of the lake, although he cannot enter upon and possess it to the prejudice of navigation. Whenever the submerged land becomes subject to occupancy the rights become active and paramount, and he is enabled to dispossess any opposing claimant.

About eighteen months ago the representatives of the Illinois Central, Michigan Central and Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroads proposed to the Common Council to buy the three blocks of unoccupied land adjoining their tracks, lying between Randolph and Monroe streets. A portion of this ground had been dedicated to the public by the agent of the War Department, who subsequently sold the lots in Fort Dearborn Addition. Another portion had been released from the lake by gradual filling; and still another portion belonged to Fractional Section 13"—that is, to the tract laid out by the Canal Commissioners in 1853. The railroad men proposed to the committee of the Council, who were appointed to confer with them, that they would give the city $200,000 for the ground, or more if it was worth more; that they would accept a quit-claim deed, and that they would compel the city to secure the grounds and lines in any subsequent proceedings. The committee, in the exercise of a sound discretion, reported against the proposition, and the Council, by a vote of 18 to 12, rejected it.

The Chicago *Post* undertakes to criticise the view of this paper touchant of the Alabama claim controversy, and, in so doing, misrepresents a remark attributed to General Grant, to the effect that the destruction of merchant vessels by the Alabama was but a small portion of the injury done to the trade of Great Britain; and that, in point of fact, the assistance rendered to the rebels by the British prolonged the war a whole year, and thereby added enormously to our national debt.

No one understood the alleged remark of General Grant to mean that Great Britain was to be held responsible for one year's expense of the war. The remark was intended, and really expresses no more than that Great Britain's hostility was so decided and so active as to fifteen millions of dollars destroyed by the British privateers, but was general in its extent, and perdicious in its execution. There is little difference of opinion among the American people that Great Britain's confession by Great Britain of her crime in maliciously attempting to destroy the American Union by covert means, with an acknowledgment of her bitter disappointment when the rebellion was crushed, and a promise to behave better hereafter, would be a greater tribute to truth and to international justice than the payment of the Alabama claims, after bragging and pettifogging over each item in the long catalogue of American property she feloniously lost for the money value of the ships and cargoes Great Britain destroyed then they do for the malicious spirit she exhibited towards this republic in the day of its peril and sore distress.

The *Post* says:

> We believe that the British Government is sincerely desirous of settling this controversy in an equitable manner; that it will go to almost any length to avoid a national quarrel with us. We hope that it will appear as forgiving as it is just and generous, and that the past will be forever closed, and the world's peace transpired.

The haste of Great Britain to wind up this affair before the close of Johnson's administration is unprecedented, except, perhaps, by her recognition of the belligerent rights of the rebels. That Great Britain is anxious for a settlement we have no doubt, but there is no necessity for settling it within the next six weeks, nor for arranging immediately for an investigation claims of a character of inadmissible description arising during the last thirty years. Let us have that treaty read and discussed by the whole people, and if they decide against it, let it sleep the sleep that knows no waking.

The claimant of the United States against Great Britain have been standing unsettled, most others, for half a dozen years. They will not lose anything by running a little longer, as they are drawing interest; another government will be more at leisure for a while to take up the subject, and it will be a Christian job of it. The friends of the British depredators in this country are advised to keep cool and preserve their patience. John Bull will be brought into court at the proper time, and the whole matter will be disposed of in accordance with the principles of justice, right and the honor of the great republic. America is the aggrieved party, and it is for her to say when the settlement shall commence to be made.

Senator Chandler and his copper stock ring say that the increased tax on copper and brass is only four cents a pound in gold. But the addition to the price will be much more than a pound of copper in the United States which is for sale, and on every pound that may hereafter be produced or purchased in the mine.

Will Senator Chandler be good enough to inform us how he reconciles this four cent tax? Is it expected so find its way? Is it not the intention that the copper stock speculators shall "gobble" every dollar of the tax? Was not "protection" by this copper tax? Surely the buyers and consumers of copper, for they are "done out" of the four cents per pound. Will Mr. Chandler please explain to us where he finds the constitutional power authorizing Congress to allow the copper stock speculators to charge and collect four cents per pound more for their copper than the commercial market value of the article?

SPRINGFIELD.

Passage of the Railroad Bill and Newell Resolution.

Signal Conduct of the Railroad People.

The Debate.

Regulation of Patent Rights.

Chicagoans in Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 24.

It is done at last; the voice of the long suffering people ground into the dust by oppressive passenger rates, and suffering from the exactions of wealthy and lawless corporations, has been heard. No longer shall the pallmen of the masses be abused, for the House, sitting past its usual hour of adjournment, and the Senate this afternoon, adopted the Railroad bill, and that, too, in one of the oddest moods; for of the fifty odd members who at last voted in the affirmative, no less were governed by the same motives. Some supported it because they honestly believed it to be right, having good intentions but poor judgments; others because they were submissive to what they thought was the popular will, just as in a preceding Legislature the same view of the case led men to vote for the Rapid-Transit bill; others because they saw the bill would pass without them, and they preferred to be on the winning side; others in order to have to make the great national musical jubilee a great success.

Last year 3,200,000 postage stamps were issued for the London *Times*, and 404,848 for the *Standard*.

An octogenarian female resident of Columbus, O., is said to be cutting her third set of teeth.

The government realized $6,000 from the sale of a confiscated distillery at Gibbonsville, Iowa, last year.

The result of a revival at Cottageone, Iowa, was the addition of 180 converts to the Congregational Church, and thirty to the First M. E. Church.

The course of study in Amherst College, Mass., has been remodelled to allow of more instruction in English composition and declamation.

The thirteen Congregational Churches in Boston have a total of 4,707 members, of whom 2,340 are females.

Several New York up-town merchants protest against a public bath, the office to be located near Union Square.

An Australian horse recently made the fastest time on record for the distance—ten miles in 20 minutes and 5 seconds.

A Lewiston (Me.) man recently plant shots at a bear of extraordinary size, which he found in the Indian reservation.

The Pope's revenue from the Romish Church in Ireland, last year, was $1,000,000, and the Protestant Church in Ireland, $1,000,000.

Bayard Taylor's new poem, "Lars," is said to be a very fine production, and is to be published in the Atlantic.

Rev. Dr. Cummings, of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, New York, has been offered $10,000 per year to preach in Boston.

The Rev. Daniel Dorchester, of Boston, has been appointed to the chair of moral philosophy in Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn

Another Meeting of the Chicago Scrolls Society.

Woman's Convention Announced for February 11th and 12th.

Sunday's Meeting Interrupted by Wolves in Sheep's Clothing.

"Grannies" to be Excluded from the Convention.

Some Suggestions.

The Chicago Scrolls Society held an adjourned meeting yesterday afternoon, in the Scrolls Library, Major Block. The chair was taken at 3 P. M. Waterman, Esq., was called to the chair, ornamented by a pair of spectacles, and astride of a good-looking nose. Mother Green is her usually flattered, and she is obliging enough to act as secretary. The appeals to the woman of business, and enthusiasm up to

[illegible]

FINE FINANCIERING.

Manipulations of the National Bank-Profitable Operations of the Treasury Ring Brokers.

Washington (Jan. 26) Correspondence of the New York Herald.

The most important bill of the present session was quietly introduced on Thursday last by Senator Conkling. It is entitled "A Bill to prohibit secret sales of bonds and gold on account of the United States." and is as follows:

[illegible]

THE COURTS.

Disagreement of the Jury in the Lee C. Brown Case.

Judge Drummond's Opinion of the Whiskey Act of 1868.

Mr. Tirkner Looking After the Spiritual Welfare of His Children.

A Short Honeymoon.

UNITED STATES COURTS.

In the case of the indictment against Lee C. Brown, fully mentioned in Tue Tribune of yesterday, the jury failed to agree.

The District Court then took up an information filed against thirty-five barrels of high-wines and other articles, the appurtenances of a distillery operated at Camden Mills, near Hotel Island, by George P. and Jacob Feysinger. The information in this case is filed under the law of 1868, and charges, in aid of and as a reason for forfeiture, that these claimants had not paid the special tax required by law; second, that they had not kept proper books; third, that they had not given the bond required by law as a condition precedent for carrying on the business; and, fourth, that they carried on the business with intent to defraud. On the hearing a great deal of evidence was introduced, the testimony under the fourth count. Mr. Goudy, for the claimants, argued that the information in this respect was insufficient in the language of specifications. The law applies in substance to persons who shall engage in or carry on the business of distiller with intent to defraud the Uliver Estates of the tax, or any part thereof. The counsel thought that the statement was meant exactly to the case of a person who engages in or carries on the business of distilling for the particular purpose of defrauding the government, and that under it there might be admitted testimony tending to show that before the transaction in question intent. The question had, however, in view the sufficiency of the pleadings, and he had never seen a case similar to the Court that the question would be decided by demurrer to the Circuit Court. It would have been passed upon, but the Court ought to receive anything which might tend to show that the parties were guilty of fraud. If the jury should find for the government under the law, it would be a very fine question whether counsel could not move in arrest of judgment on the ground that the law was not a constitutional one. The Court spoke of the law, remarking, in substance, that it is a peculiar law in the way that it operates in thousands of parties, and crops up claims to do things or what they never knew or knowledge, and punishes them for doing things of which they know nothing. It seems it was one of those unreasonable and unjust laws which sometimes crop up in the statute books. It was a very fine question whether it was constitutional or not

FOREIGN.

Further Difficulties Expected Between Greece and Italy.

Additional Particulars Concerning the Fenian Disaster.

Decisive Battle Between the British Troops and New Zealand Natives.

The Eastern Question.
GREECE AND THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE LATE PEACE CONFERENCE.

LONDON, Jan. 27.

The Greek Government will probably give its in adhesion to the conclusion of the Conference of Paris, but it is feared its signature will be accompanied by reservations which can only tend to protract the difficulty with Turkey.

Great Britain.
DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN LIBERAL.

LONDON, Jan. 27.

Mr. Earnest Jones, the well known radical politician, died yesterday. He had just been in Nottingham on a visit, where Sir Albert Gibson, a Liberal candidate, is to succeed Mr. Birney, one of the present Members of Parliament from Nottingham, in case the latter should be unseated on a charge of bribery.

SAME DISPOSITION PROVED FOR THE FENIAN PRISONERS.

The Directors of the Bank of Ireland, Gurney & Co., have been held for trial in bonds of $100,000 each.

THE GOVERNMENT ASKED TO PARDON THE FENIAN CONVICTS.

DUBLIN, Jan. 27.

A meeting of influential citizens was held here last night, at which resolutions were adopted urging the government to pardon the Fenian convicts.

THE RECENT DISASTER ON THE STEAMSHIP PERIERE.

LONDON, Jan. 27.

None of the first-class passengers on the steamer Periere were seriously injured by the recent accident. Three of the crew were killed, and the following second-class passengers: Callahan, a Catholic priest; Mr. Fontmer, a Frenchman; and Mr. Falkenberg, a German. The Periere encountered a fearful tempest a few days out from Brest, in consequence of which heavy seas broke over her, carrying away entirely her forward mast, and filling the forward compartment. She also sustained such injuries to her machinery as compelled her to put back to Havre under sail.

LONDON, Jan. 27—6.30 p. m.

All information which up to this hour has been exhausted of the disaster to the steamship Periere, is to assurance that none of the American passengers on board were killed or injured.

THE TROUBLE IN NEW ZEALAND.

LONDON, Jan. 27.

An official despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, announcing that a battle has taken place between the British troops and the Maori rebels, at Poverty Bay, and the latter were defeated with great loss in killed, wounded and prisoners. The victory had restored tranquillity in that quarter of the Colony.

Spain.
CATHOLIC BIGOTS CONSPIRED BY THE QUEEN'S BAND—CATHOLIC CHEMY INFIDELED.

MADRID, Jan. 27.

The government has laid claim to all libraries, archives and works of art possessed by the churches as the property of the State. It was while carrying out the orders of the government that the Governor of Burgos was assassinated. This event has caused intense excitement. Strong representations have been made by the people in this city against the Papal Nuncio, and the government had withdrawn its official recognition of his diplomatic powers. The Dean and chapter of the Cathedral of Burgos have been arrested and imprisoned.

France.
REPORTED DIE OF NEW RAPPEAN DIFFICULTIES.

PARIS, Jan. 27.

General Dix, Minister of the United States, at a public banquet given in his honor, made a speech in which he declared that the cause of the Greek was identical with the cause of liberty throughout the world, and he hoped the people of Greece that they had the sympathy of America.

COTTON SHIP SUNKEN AT HAVRE.

HAVRE, Jan. 27.—Noon.

Ship Alesha, with a cargo of cotton from New Orleans, is in the port. She will probably be totally destroyed. She is owned in Boston.

Turkey.
MR. MORRIS' ANCESTOR NAMED.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 27.

The Levant Times publishes a report that Senator Rye, of Nevada, will succeed Mr. Morris as American Minister to Constantinople on March next.

PEORIA.

Fire Last Evening—Loss $30,000—Attempted Suicide—The Coopers' Strike.

PEORIA, Jan. 28.—The Carroll distillery, situated on the river bank, owned by Lightner, King & Co., was destroyed by fire last night. Loss $28,000; no insurance. A. P. Lincoln lost $1,000 on the lumber owned by the firm, which was insured for $3,000. The fire is supposed to be incendiary.

[illegible] miles from here, in Cole County, [illegible] Mr. Ira Wolf was shot by shotgun, "[illegible]." The Wolf was seen [illegible] hours, and was still living last evening, but there were no [illegible] of his recovery. Cause of the attempted suicide not yet obtained. The coopers still continue their determination to hold out two months. There was a light fall of snow last night, weather cloudy, but not unpleasant.

VENEZUELA.

An Attempt to Dodge a Settlement with the United States.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—A Caracas (Venezuela) letter of December 31 states that Mr. Talmadge, the American Minister, in the course of urging for the settlement of American claims, has been accused of fraud, and the government, it is announced, immediately demanded the abrogation of the treaty. Mr. Talmadge is fully able to disprove any imputation against him. The whole affair is supposed to have been induced by a wish to avoid paying the heavy instalments already adjudged to the United States.

SOLAR ECLIPSE OF AUGUST 18th, 1868.

By Orman D. Stone, of the Dearborn Observatory.

THE SUN AND THE SPECTROSCOPE.

The physical constitution of the sun has ever been a puzzle to scientific men. Has the sun an atmosphere analogous to ours? That are those dark spots which constantly cross his disc? Whence that life-giving principle in his rays without which flowers would wither, grass fade, and forests grow brown? And will he ever become blasted and leave his earths to darkness and death? These and a thousand other questions have arisen whose solutions seem almost hopeless, and of the effort since nearly spoke exhausted.

As far back as 1670—almost two hundred years ago—Sir Isaac Newton discovered the prismatic spectrum, but not till the beginning of this century did Wollaston and Fraunhofer discover those celestial dark lines whence sprang that most wonderful and fertile branch of modern science—the spectral analysis; that fruitful tell in which has [illegible] developed the genius of a Bunsen and a Kirchoff, a Padre Secchi and a William Huggins. Across [illegible] this science receives new life, and [illegible] inspired with new hope.

Thus far even, though in its very infancy, this wonderful means of analysis has discovered more than one of the primary elements, and learns this little earth has told us what many of the nebulæ and stars are made of, and now proposes to tell us the motions of those suns and distances of those bright lights from them, with Rosamond measurelessness, only, not years after tens or hundreds or thousands of years.

Two years ago the spectroscope partially solved the question of solar spots, but an investigation of the general nature of the sun's atmosphere has hitherto been impossible, under ordinary circumstances. When a total eclipse occurs, however, the moon intervening, shuts off the dazzling light of the sun itself and enables us to see that which surrounds it.

THE ECLIPSE AND ITS OBSERVERS.

In the eclipse which occurred upon the 18th of August, the moon's shadow struck the earth being near that part of her orbit where she is farthest from the sun, the apparent diameter of the latter was nearly a minimum. On the other hand, the moon was almost at her nearest point to the earth, consequently her apparent diameter. Hence the duration of totality was great, the sun being completely covered for from three to six minutes, and it was hoped that in that time valuable results might be obtained. This eclipse was therefore looked forward to with intense interest, and more extensive preparations made for its observation than had been ever made for any previous one.

More than a dozen scientific parties observed the phenomena at various places along the central line. An American expedition, under Dr. Vogel, and a Dutch German one, under Dr. Vogel, were stationed at Adoo, in Arabia. Lieutenant Herschel observed the eclipse at Sumbawa, near the west coast of Hindostan; Captain C. T. Haly, of the Indian Navy, was at Masulipatam; Major Tennant, R. E., at Guntoor; all in the charge of English expeditions. Besides these, Dr. Vogel, also stationed in behalf of Gunlood, and another, under M. Stephan, at Yeu Tsung, on the Mahyen Peninsula, while Mr. Bradley, J. Pope Hennessy, Governor of Labuan, awaited the phenomenon on the west coast of Borneo.

THE PHENOMENA.

All these parties were fortunate in their selection of localities, some of them somewhat enjoying the fruits of their own and possessing perfect weather, while the Indian parties of a similar nature. The telescope employed by the Vogel party, which made a special study of the phenomena, was a [illegible] with [illegible] power, and equipped with a [illegible] spectroscope, [illegible] Dr. Vogel describes the phenomena as follows:

"Suddenly there burst forth a luminous ring around the moon, which was composed of a multitude of rays quite irregular in length and, the longest from the upper and lower parts they extended in bands to a distance of more than twice the diameter of the sun. Other bands appeared to fall towards one side, but in these there was no regularity, for bands near them fell away apparently toward the other side. When I called attention to this Lieutenant Ray said, 'Yes, I see them; they are like horses' tails,' and they certainly resembled masses of luminous hair in comparison with the sun.

THE PROTUBERANCES AND THE CORONA.

The most interesting appearance, however, seen during a total eclipse of the sun are, perhaps, the protuberances. The former is a halo of light which appears about the moon when concealing the sun, and may be compared to the nimbus or glory often represented above the saints in the old pictures. Some of these protuberances were seen by the naked eye, and the total observation. The "protuberances" were irregular flame-like elevations around the edge of the moon. I say the moon, because there is a year, although their real connection known to be with the sun. In the eclipse of last August, the number of protuberances seen varied from two to four. In Dr. Vogel's first photograph of them, "the dark edge of the sun was surrounded by a number of elevations on the one side, while on the other there appeared a peculiar flame-like form. The horn spoken of he estimated to have an altitude of about one-fourteenth of the sun's diameter, i. e., over sixty thousand miles, according to Dr. Weiss, about ninety thousand. English miles; and, according to Dr. Vogel, it is an "remarkable spiral structure." In Dr. Vogel's last picture, the elevations on the other side of the sun are well delineated and about 45° degrees from them, more or less, lower—from the spectroscopic color of these prominences is variously described by the different observers. The majority, perhaps, describe them as rose colored, but others, probably just as reliable, say they were white, and Dr. Weiss describes the color of the flame-like form as a vivid carmine red." An explanation given for this variation of statement is that these appearances are really white and the colored appearances were optical deceptions, occasioned by color blindness and the achromatic character of instruments employed.

EMINENT OBSERVERS.

Lieutenant Herschel found in the spectrum of these protuberances the lines D, Major Tennant, C, D, b, F, with perhaps in the blue near G; "and M. Rayet, who was in M. Stephan's party, B, D, E, b, F, with two lines in the green." Dr. Weiss agrees upon a line hitherto unknown near F. These were observed in the spectrum of the corona at all, describe it as very faint, continuous one. These results seem to indicate that the sun is surrounded by a non-luminous gas, into which rise vast incandescent masses, thousands of miles in length, containing, at least, iron, iron and magnesium. The line D would appear to indicate sodium, and yet a writer in the Quarterly Journal of Science says that this bright line may be, it is certainly not a sodium line."

Observations with the polariscope show that the light from the prominences is unpolarized, while that from the corona is strongly polarized everywhere in a plane passing through the centre of the sun.

The most important discovery made, however, during the eclipse, was that by Dr. Janssen, by means of the spectroscope. Observations may be examined without the aid of an opera-glass by intervening in out of the light of the main portion of the sun. J. N. Lockyer, F. R. A. S., of London, has shown some time had the prominences under continual observation. On the 5th of November this gentleman discovered, in addition, between the lines of eclipse, what he describes as "a gaseous envelope of the sun, altogether independent." Mr. Lockyer is enabled to distinguish the prominences from the limb of the sun by admitting the light of the light, one above the other, through a slit. By this arrangement, the light of these from the limb of the sun, is spread out into a long, broad spectrum, but the other into lines or four bright lines only. Hence, as it is depicted more than the other, and the relative brilliancy of the two is altered. Dr. Janssen and Mr. Lockyer independently made their discoveries independently, and deserve equal credit.

THE NEXT SOLAR ECLIPSE.

The coming summer (August 7, 1869,) this country is also to be favored with a total eclipse of the sun, in many respects more favorable for observation than the last. Occurring in a land of railroads and telegraph wires, access to the central line will be comparatively easy. Preparations have already begun, and it is hoped that these will become more general as the time approaches. Profiting by the experience of the past, the methods of observation may be, and undoubtedly will be, improved, and the results will be more valuable.

A Remarkable Woman.

Mrs. Hannah Pettibutt, of Belchertown, Mass., celebrated her hundredth birthday on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1868. She was born in Lyme, Conn., in 1768, and was married at the age of twenty-two to Paul Pettibutt. Her maiden name was Hannah Sawyer. She has had two brothers and sisters, one of whom lived to by ninety-nine, and several of them to a great age. One brother, Francis Sawyer, was killed at the battle of Saratoga, in October, 1777. Mrs. P. had ten children, only four of whom are now living, and all of them were able to be present on Monday, the day she entered upon her 100 year. Mrs. Pettibutt possesses her faculties in a remarkable degree, reads live or five chapters daily in her Bible, which has been served for as long, its leaves being soiled, worn and brown. She says she never had her hearing impaired, and has good eyesight. Her great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, by name, she can tell, and remember their birthdays. She has been to church and to all those who have lived to be her children, and expects the Lord in his time to set and receive her home. Perhaps the protracted mental vigor of this venerable lady is due to her adoption of a new style of pipe, in lieu of the shoes of an ordinary one. The bowl is constructed of vegetable fibre, and consequently it does not become hot, and the smoke is cooled before it reaches the mouth. There was also a lady nearly

[illegible] Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1868, the day of the Prince Oscar's birthday, with Said Lee, Esq., of the Prince's Guards, with Said Lee, Esq., of the Prince's Guards, with Said Lee, Esq., of the Prince's Guards